GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5509
ANSWERED ON:24.04.2001
COMPULSORY ELEMENTARY EDUCATION IN SCHEDULED AREAS OF ORISSA
KUMUDINI PATNAIK

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to introduce compulsory elementary education in the scheduled areas of Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government also propose to enhance the number of Post-Matric Scholarships in Orissa; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM)

(a) As per the information provided by Ministry of Human Resource Development, theGovernment has launched the National Programme for Universalisation of ElementaryEducation called `The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan` (SSA) which is an effort to operationalise the Policy commitment of providing free and compulsory education to all children in the age group of 6-14 years.

(b) 14 districts of Orissa, viz. Angul, Balasore, Jaipur, Jharsuguda, Kendrapara, Khurda,Nayagarh, Bhadrak, Cuttack, Deogarh, Ganjam, Jagatsinghpur, Puri and Sundargarh havebeen covered under SSA and pre-Project activities have also been initiated at a total cost of Rs. 2.46 crores.

(c)& (d) The objective of the Post Matric scholarship scheme is to provide financial assistance toScheduled Tribes students in recognized post matriculation courses of recognized institutions within India. The scheme provides for 100% Central Assistance to State Governments and Union Territory Administrations implementing the scheme over and above their respective committed liability, which is required to be borne by them through their own resources. The committed liability of the North-eastern States has, however, been dispensed with from the commencement of the 9th Five Year Plan. In the year 2000-2001 Rs. 113.83lakh was released to the Government of Orissa.